

About Open Temple

Open Temple is an emerging community for the Jew-ishly curious and those who love us in and around Venice Beach, CA.

Founding Rabbi/Executive and Artistic Director Lori Shapiro moved into the Venice Canals to start a family, and realized that Venice had a vibrant Jewish history; however, there was no Jewish community that matched what she loved most about Venice: creativity, progressive thought and inclusivity.

A community organizing effort began extending from Venice to Manhattan Beach, and Rabbi Lori and the founding families met individuals in playgrounds, restaurants, cafes, bookstores and art walks, sharing their vision of a creatively vibrant, ritually disruptive and musically rock n' roll community. After Rabbi Lori landed a fellowship with the nationally renowned CLAL/Rabbis Without Borders Clergy Leadership Incubator, Open Temple attracted mentors and advisors around Los Angeles as well as nationally to help steward its vision.

Open Temple has touched over 1,500 people through its creative "Happenings": Third Friday Shabbat services, High Holiday Ritual Lab, Sukkot on the Canal Farm, Hanukah Boat Parade, Tot Shabbat, Family Havdalah Happenings, Reboot's Shabbat Unplugged/Digital Detox and more. Housed at Electric Lodge Creative Arts Center, lofts, beaches and bookstores in and around Venice, our collaborations with Jewish Federation, Om Shalom Yoga, Reboot, Moishe House, Silver Lake Independent JCC, East Side Jews, Wilshire Blvd. Temple, Hebrew Union College, NuRoots, Kolot and other pillars of Los Angeles, American and Israeli Jewish life continue to provide the best of cutting edge Jewish experiences and programming. We are an inclusive community effort; we do not have memberships or charge for most Happenings. We ask that the community join us as Co-Creators to fund Happenings and volunteer. Our budget is available for viewing, as we believe that everyone should understand how our operations and Happenings function right down to the last dollar.

Our community has danced at weddings, mourned over the loss of our loved ones, and welcomed babies as well as celebrated over a dozen bar/bat mitzvahs in our first two years through our Creative Torah Academy – a Soul Journey for young people to explore Jewish life, ritual, sacred language and mindfulness through artistic and intellectual curiosity. Our commitment to welcoming interfaith and blended families is a core value of Open Temple.

Open Temple's mission is to inspire individuals and families towards a life of Jewish curiosity, creativity and critical thought and to re-enchant and reinvigorate our human potential towards more meaningful, connected and purposeful lives through the experience of awe and community.

Create with us.



About Open Temple (cont.)

Board Members:

Lori Schneide Shapiro, *Rabbi/Founder* – Lori's rabbinate is dedicated to reaching unaffiliated and intermarried families and seekers. A graduate of both the Academy for Jewish Religion/California as well as the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, she has served communities in Reform, Reconstructionist, Conservative as well as Non-Denominational affiliations. She and her husband, Dr. Joel Shapiro, live in the Venice canals with their family. Lori is a graduate of Barnard College.

Stephanie Shuken – Stephanie grew up in Maryland, then earned a BFA in Dance Performance from SUNY Purchase. Stephanie is the creator and owner of Village Arts & Enrichment Center in the Pacific Palisades, a creative studio she established ten years ago that offers art, music, and dance for young children. Contributing to Open Temple brings excitement into her life and inspiration for creating community where all who participate will thrive and be spiritually nourished.

Susie Johnston – Eight years ago, Susie and her husband Carter landed in Santa Monica from the east coast. Having been in the nonprofit sector for most of her professional career, Susie found a home at KJAZZ 88.1 FM managing volunteer services. In her newest role as "Matchmaker Extraordinaire," Susie is looking forward to meeting and getting to know the wonderful people involved with Open Temple.

Cari Chanin – Cari has had strong ties to the Venice community since the early 70's, and currently works as a local realtor. She is an avid sailor who enjoys yacht racing, spending time on long walks with her beloved dogs, and enjoying the company of friends and family. Cari brings a wealth of experience to Open Temple and is happy to serve our community.

Blake Fogel – Blake is a local entrepreneur and developer of commercial real estate spanning 13 states and 26 markets. His most recent company, FogelRE, currently has major holdings in Venice and throughout the Westside of Los Angeles. Blake has been present at Open Temple Happenings since our first Rosh HaShanah, and has a hunger for all things spiritual.

Pamela Petrigliano – Pamela is a pioneer in the Digital Marketing space and was responsible for launching several successful start-ups, while also supporting brands such as Sony Pictures, Nestle & American Express. Growing up in Brooklyn and attending services at a temple with a very close-knit community, which her grandfather helped create, she values the energy, creativity & warmth of Open Temple.

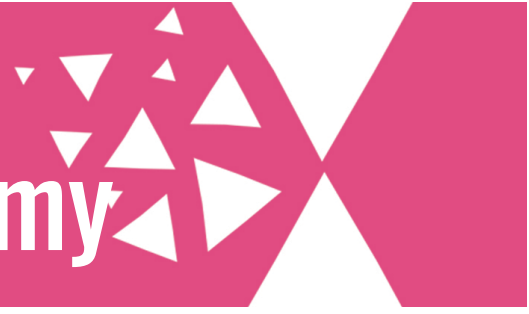
Advisory Board:

Joshua Avedon
Hillel Cohn
Rabbi Laura Geller
Jamie Halper

Irwin Kula
Rabbi Michael Resnick
Rabbi Steven Carr Reuben, Ph.D.
Rabbi Sid Schwarz

Annette Shapiro
Gary Wexler
Jessica Youseffi

Creative Torah Academy



Capturing Our Children's Imaginations.

Creative. Fun. Yummy. Provocative.
Inspiring. Intellectually stimulating.
Primary Texts. **Dynamic Instructors.**
Art. Music. Theatre. Dance.
Keep them wanting **more.**



Soul Journey Kids

2nd – 6th Grades

Focusing on creativity, inquiry and impactful experiences, our spiral curriculum deepens with each school year through ritual experiences of the Jewish holidays. Each year takes a different perspective of the holidays: Torah and Text, Jewish Civilization and Culture, Ritual and Sacred Language.

Hebrew is taught as the language of prayer with an emphasis on the impact prayer has on our lives as a tool for meditation, focus, and elevating emotional health. Students are introduced to concepts of sacred language, spirituality, creativity and concepts of Godliness as pillars of Jewish being. Texts include, Torah, Tenach, Midrash and Talmud, as well as an introduction to Jewish texts throughout the ages. Traditional and modern Jewish thinkers enhance our students' understanding of ritual observances, concepts of Jewish law, and the historical depth and complexity of Jewish life. All of these concepts are taught through enchanting rituals, creative projects, intellectual rigor and a lot of edible as well as experienced FUN.

Classes meet once a week in both Venice and Manhattan Beach.

The Open Temple Creative Torah Academy offers a unique Jewish Journey where students learn about Torah through art, music, dance, theatre and thought. Our studio sessions, creative activities, discussion forums, guest artists and visits to locations around Venice and Los Angeles nurture the Jewish imagination and mind. Classes are taught by a rabbi and arts professional.

Tot Shabbat

Newborn - 1st Grades
Second Friday of the Month, 3:30PM.

Led by an Open Temple musician, our Tot Shabbat engages the youngest to Open their Temples along with their parents and caregivers. Music. Dance. Creative Play. Grape Juice. Challah. Yum!



Creative Torah Academy (cont.)

Bnai Mitzvah Program

7th Grade (and sometimes 6th graders depending on birthdate) is the Bnai Mitzvah year. Open Temple offers personal bar and bat mitzvah experiences. From traditional rituals where Open Temple rents space in a local (or global!) chapel or synagogue, to creative rituals crafted by families in location-specific environments, the objective of Open Temple's Bnai Mitzvah program is to engage not only the student but the whole family in the impactful ritual that is Bar and Bat Mitzvah.

Our core program of the Bnai Mitzvah year focuses on devotional language; students are trained in Torah, Tefilah (prayer) and Hermeneutics (Biblical interpretation). Many of our students opt for a traditional bar or bat mitzvah and have celebrated these rituals in theatres, on backlot studios, and in their backyards. Other students prefer taking this training as a form of personal expression and lead the community in a specific project that might include social action engagement, a creative production or an outdoors experience with an emphasis on community engagement and a personal literacy and understanding of Jewish identity, literature, history and culture.

Teen Program: Superheroes Ride

7th - 12th Grades

Open Temple is excited to launch our Superheroes Ride in 2016. Inspired by comic books (many created by Jews), as well as the myth of the hero in Torah as well as in all cultures, we will study modern as well as Biblical heroes (from Moses to Martin Luther King, and Gandhi). Students will evaluate their collective values, what makes a hero, and how to community organize and create impactful moments of service.

Culminating in a weekend in the sprint, our home-made *Tallitot* transform into capes, and we take to our bikes as modern day superheroes for different campaigns around Venice, seeking people to help. Think Mitzvah Project meets Intentional Community Impact Project.

For more information, email info@opentemple.org

Happenings

Open Temple offers over 40 Happenings annually, and welcomes everyone to attend. Anchoring our community are our Third Friday Shabbat "Take Me Higher" services, Second Friday Tot Shabbat for families with young children, monthly Rosh Hodesh New Moon Circle for women, weekly classes, festival celebrations, learning circles and impactful community experiences beyond just the High Holidays. This year, Open Temple introduces a unique 9-week Soul Journey for interested individuals seeking a rigorous and creative soul workout. In addition to our own offerings, listed below, we also collaborate regularly with other organizations to bring cutting edge Jewish and interfaith programming to Venice.

Shabbat Services – Take Me Higher:

Third Friday of the Month, an hour and a half, followed by Shabbat Lounge with kiddush, challah and sustenance. Kids of all ages are welcome and encouraged. Our community recognizes yahrzeits and supports mourners and those in need of healing during our services, as well as those celebrating baby namings, engagements and weddings.

Tot Shabbat:

Second Friday of the Month, 3:30 pm.

Music. Dance. Creative Play. Grape Juice. Challah. Yum!

Rosh Hodesh New Moon Circle:

First Thursday of the Month, 7:30 pm.

A gathering of women empowering all things XX.

Family Havdalah Happenings:

Once a month. Families gather to meet, eat and learn how to bring Judaism into their homes, sharing the journey with one another.



Happenings (cont.)

Soul Journey:

A nine-week journey of spiritual challenges, quests, silences and creative revelations. Our class is a workshop for free spirited creative types seeking connection to the Source – artists, musicians, actors, moms and dads who once had a dream, and anyone seeking to connect one's personal creative path with the wisdom of the ancients.

Creative Torah Academy:

With classes in both Venice and Manhattan Beach, our Creative Torah Academy is a cutting edge curriculum of Jewish creativity, thought, civilization and spirituality for those on their journey to bar or bat mitzvah.

Superheroes Ride and Isaiah Hours:

In 2016, Open Temple launches its social action initiative including a weekend service project, and a volunteer hours exchange that will make your volunteering hours work for the community as well as raise funds for Open Temple.

Holiday Ritual Labs:

Open Temple blends the spirit of Venice with the spirit of Jewish creativity, and offers impactful holiday ritual experiences for families and individuals. Our holiday celebrations include our High Holiday Ritual Lab: Rosh HaShanah, Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur services with Yoga flows, Labyrinth walks, and meditations; Sukkot on the Canal Farm; Simchat Torah Dance Walk on Ocean Front Walk; Hanukah Canal Boat Parade; Tu b'Shevat environmental festival; Purim Dance Party; Passover Freedom Seder, L'ag b'Omer Bonfire, Tu b'Av Midsummer's Night and more.

For more information about any of our Happenings, email info@opentemple.org.

opentemple.org | 1416 Electric Avenue Venice, CA 90291 | 310.821.1414
info@opentemple.org

Giving Opportunities

If you would prefer to focus your giving on a specific program, we're happy to accommodate. Below is a list of suggested Giving Opportunities – all of which enable us to keep our community thriving. Program support will be acknowledged in all related communications.

Please note any specific focus for your giving on the Pledge Card.

Annual program support:

Shabbat: \$36,000
Shabbat Lounge (Oneg): \$5,000
Shabbat Music: \$20,000
Tot Shabbat: \$3,000
Family Havdalah Happenings: \$1,000
Rosh Hodesh: \$2,500
Soul Journey: \$2,500
Purim Family Dance Party: \$1,000
Freedom Sedar: \$10,000
Spiritual Story Slam: \$2,500
Sukkot: \$1,200
Hanukah: \$2,500

Additional Giving Opportunities:

Torah Refurbishment: \$25,000
Rabbinic Intern: \$15,000
Ark for Torah: \$5,000
Kabbalah Bracelets: \$5,000
Ritual in a Box Kits: \$5,000
Torah Breastplate: \$2,500
Hanukah Menorah: \$2,500
External Office Mural: \$1,000
Founders Ketubah: \$2,500
Camping Trip/Retreat (Shabbaton): \$2,500
Back Jacks (20): \$2,000
Building Social Action Initiative: \$1,800
Open Temple Sedar Plates: \$1,500
Torah Cover: \$1,000
Torah Belt: \$500
Shabbat Lounge (Oneg) (1): \$500
Office Mezuzah: \$250
House Party: You name it.





Pledge Form

Open Temple recognizes that the contributions made by its participants create and sustain us and support us fulfilling our vision. By fulfilling this pledge, you become a co-creator of Open Temple. Contributors of more than \$5,000 made within the next year will be recognized on our Founder's Ketubah (an artistically rendered written agreement created by a local Venice artist with our founder's covenant written on it). The Ketubah will be displayed at all Happenings, and at the future Open Temple Center for Creative Jewish Spirituality. Founders will sign our Ketubah, and all Founders and Builders will be listed.

All contributions are tax deductible.

Founder's Circle

(\$10,000 to The Infinite)

I am Founder.

I/We hereby pledge to Open Temple the Founder's amount of \$_____.

Builder's Circle

(\$5,000 - \$9,999)

I am Builder.

I/We hereby pledge to Open Temple the Builder's amount of \$_____.

Producer's Circle

(up to \$4,999)

I am a Producer.

I/We hereby pledge to Open Temple the Producer's amount of \$_____.

Please direct my/our donation towards the following (optional):

[PAYMENT INFORMATION ON REVERSE]

Pledge Form (cont.)

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Payments will be made:

☐ in one payment ☐ monthly over the next year

Preferences:

- ☐ Please provide notification as installments are due (for monthly payments).
- ☐ I am/we are pleased to be included in all official published donor lists as appropriate.
- ☐ I/we would prefer to remain anonymous.

My name/our names should appear as follows:

In Memory of _____ In Honor of _____

Name(s) on card (please print): _____

Signature: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Credit Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Street Address: _____ CVC #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please charge my card on the ☐ 1st of the month OR the ☐ 15th of the month

Open Temple also accepts checks, and if you would like to be issued an electronic invoice, please let us know.



Open Temple Budget

Open Temple continues to grow.

In our first year, we offered 18 Happenings in and around Venice including our first annual High Holiday Ritual Lab, Hanukah Boat Parade and Freedom Seder. In our second year, we expanded to 36 Happenings including our monthly third Friday Shabbat, Tot Shabbat and Rosh Hodesh. We also gathered for Havdalah Family Happenings, celebrated Sukkot on the Canal Farm, made Shalom Alechem sand angels for Beach Shabbat and collaborated with Om Shalom Yoga, Reboot, NuRoots, Hebrew Union College, Moishe House and others. In July of 2015, we offered two Happenings in the city-wide celebration of Tu b'Av: A beach bonfire for singles and a Happening for families called "Love Story," both of which were featured in the Jewish Journal's coverage of the event.

In the coming year, Open Temple will further engage and creatively inspire individuals and families to connect our Jewish and spiritual curiosities with one another in ways that reflect the values of love, inclusivity, and learning through our vibrant Jewish Ritual Happenings. Our programs are expanding to include a 9-week Soul Journey offering for adults, a Purim Family Dance Party, a collaboration with PJ Library, ongoing Havdalah Family Happenings, Interfaith Happenings, an Environmental Festival for Tu b'Shevat and more.

As we continue to grow, we continue to broaden our adaptive capacity. The additions of a Managing Director and bookkeeper deepen our infrastructure and ability to grow, which helps broaden our reach. Because Open Temple is committed to full financial transparency, we are sharing the details of this growth, as well as the details of our budget with you.

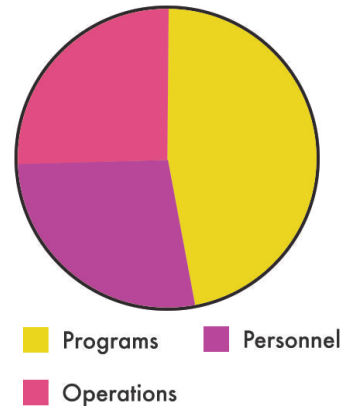


opentemple.org | 1416 Electric Avenue Venice, CA 90291 | 310.821.1414
info@opentemple.org

Open Temple Budget (cont.)

	FY 2015 (AUG 2014-JUL 2015)	FY 2016 (AUG 2015-JUL 2016)
INCOME		
Dividend Income	\$ 37	\$ 50
Tickets	\$ 18,208	\$ 40,000
Donations	\$ 33,261	\$ 85,000
Grants	\$ 2,000	\$ 18,000
Tuition - CTA	\$ 34,500	\$ 40,000
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 88,006	\$ 183,050
EXPENSES		
Programs		
Shabbat	\$ 17,950	\$ 29,000
Tot Shabbat	\$ 2,454	\$ 3,000
Family Havdalah		\$ 1,000
Soul Journey		\$ 2,500
Tu b'Av	\$ 471	\$ 1,000
High Holidays	\$ 8,324	\$ 15,000
Sukkot		\$ 1,200
Sukkah (purchase)		\$ 1,200
Simchat Torah		\$ 300
Hanukah	\$ 556	\$ 2,500
Tu b'Shevat		\$ 1,000
Purim		\$ 1,000
Freedom Seder	\$ 7,986	\$ 7,000
Take Ritual Home Kits		\$ 5,000
Other Happenings/Partnerships	\$ 1,567	\$ 3,000
Support Staff (Programs)	\$ 12,650	\$ 15,000
Core Functionality		
Advertising & Promotion	\$ 7,669	\$ 8,000
Bank/Merchant Fees	\$ 1,347	\$ 2,000
Bookkeeping	\$ 3,671	\$ 4,000
Books & Class Expenses	\$ 694	\$ 750
Charitable Contributions	\$ 843	\$ 1,000
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 285	\$ 300
Food & Beverage (non-Happenings)	\$ 3,614	\$ 4,000
General & Admin Expenses (incl. new database & other online tools)	\$ 937	\$ 7,000
Graphic Design & Website	\$ 2,071	\$ 6,000
Insurance	\$ 894	\$ 900
Office Supplies	\$ 2,306	\$ 2,500
Photography/Videography	\$ 5,238	\$ 4,000
Printing	\$ 167	\$ 3,000
Salary (Rabbi \$15K, Managing Guru \$36K)	\$ 5,000	\$ 51,000
Space Rental/Furnishings	\$ 1,888	\$ 2,500
Temple Supplies/Judaica	\$ 207	\$ 2,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 88,789	\$ 187,650

2016 PROJECTED SPENDING:



2016 FUNDRAISING GOALS:

